



PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Case No. MBHB02-763-B; 400/129)

IN THE APPLICATION OF:	)		
	)		
McSwiggen, et al.	)	Examiner:	TBA
	)		
Serial No. 10/667,271	)	Group Art Unit:	1632
	)		
Filed: September 16, 2003	)	Confirmation No.:	8658
	)		
Title RNA Interference Mediated	)	Fax No.:	(703) 746-9195
Inhibition Of Hepatitis C Virus	)		
(HCV) Gene Expression Using Short	)		
Interfering Nucleic Acid (siNA)	)		

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE REGARDING BENEFIT/PRIORITY**  
**CLAIM(s) MAILED OCTOBER 18, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

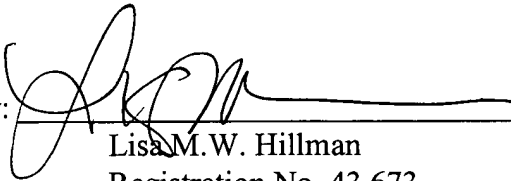
In response to the Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s) of October 18, 2003, of which a copy is attached, Applicants hereby submit a copy of the Supplemental Application Data Sheet and Oath/Declaration.

The Office has alleged that Applicant's priority claim is incorrect for improper reference to an alleged National Phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371. Applicants have reviewed the priority claims of the instant application and furnish herewith a copy of the Supplemental Application Data Sheet and Oath/Declaration to place the priority claim in proper order. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with this filing; however, if a fee is due the Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account number 13-1249.

Respectfully submitted,  
McDonnell, Boehnen, Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Date: 1/4/05

By:   
Lisa M. W. Hillman  
Registration No. 43,673